

What is claimed is:

1 1. An apparatus for sensory stimulation of a human person,
2 comprising:
3 a flexible envelope in a form recognizable as one of an animal, a person,
4 a cartoon version of an animal or person and other natural objects having a
5 length and width dimensioned to be held by the person on one of a lap and a
6 shoulder of the person;
7 a weight bearing, resilient filling substantially distributed over a length
8 and width of the envelope, wherein the weight is between about one and three
9 kilograms (2.2 to 6.6 lbs).

1 2. The apparatus for sensory stimulation of claim 1, wherein the
2 envelope is about 50 cm in length and about 20 cm in width, and is shaped to
3 simulate an animal.

1 3. The apparatus for sensory stimulation of claim 2, wherein the
2 envelope is shaped to simulate one of a pet and a doll.

1 4. The apparatus for sensory stimulation of claim 3, wherein the
2 envelope is shaped as a teddy bear.

1 5. The apparatus for sensory stimulation of claim 3, wherein the
2 envelope is shaped to simulate a dog.

1 6. The apparatus for sensory stimulation of claim 2, wherein the
2 envelope is defined by a fabric cover.

1 7. The apparatus for sensory stimulation of claim 6, wherein the
2 fabric comprises one of a raised wale and a simulated fur.

1 8. The apparatus for sensory stimulation of claim 6, wherein the
2 fabric comprises corduroy.

1 9. The apparatus used for sensory stimulation of claim 6 wherein
2 provision is made for attachment of removable pouches of a scented material.

1 10. The apparatus used for sensory stimulation of claim 9, wherein
2 said pouches contain lavender.

1 11. A method for stimulating a person with cognitive deficiencies,
2 comprising:
3 providing to the person one of a substantially weighted simulated animal,
4 simulated person and simulated natural object, the animal comprising a flexible
5 envelope dimensioned to occupy the person's attention containing a densely
6 weighted filling such that the animal weighs from about one to three kilograms
7 and the envelope.

1 12. The method of claim 11, comprising sizing the flexible envelope
2 about 50 cm in length and about 20 cm in width.